## ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

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## **NEWS RELEASE**

**Christine M. Durham** 

Chief Justice, Utah Supreme Court

**Daniel J. Becker** State Court Administrator



The Utah State Courts are committed to open, fair, and independent justice.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE September 13, 2005

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## JUDGES TO HEAR GRAND JURY TESTIMONY

A panel of judges is scheduled to meet in the Sixth Judicial District on Oct. 13 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. to hear testimony to determine if reasonable cause exists to call a grand jury. The meeting will take place in Panguitch at the Garfield County Courthouse, 55 South Main Street.

Individuals who would like to testify before the panel of judges, should contact D. Mark Jones, district court administrator, at (801) 578-3800, by Oct. 6, 2005, to schedule a one-half hour appointment. Individuals testifying must be prepared to give evidence to support claims that justify calling a grand jury. Controversies between individual parties will not be considered.

Individuals who need special accommodations during the hearing must notify Mark Jones at least three business days prior to the hearing.

Utah's Grand Jury Statute requires a panel of judges selected from throughout the state hold hearings in each judicial district every three years. The purpose of the hearings is to determine if a grand jury needs to be summoned based on evidence of criminal activity.

The Attorney General, a county attorney, district attorney, or special prosecutor appointed under U.C.A. 77-10a-1 can also present evidence if it is based on criminal activity. The panel of judges will hear, in secret, all persons claiming information that justifies calling a grand jury. All individuals appearing before the panel of judges will be placed under oath.

If a grand jury is summoned, the jurors will be called from the state-at-large or any judicial district within the state.